

**THE EXPOSITION.**  

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**Opening Night of the Season**  
**1874.**

**A Great Attendance and  
Fine Display.**

**The Vacant Places to Be Filled  
Few Days.**

**Objects of Interest Now in  
Building.**

**Special Attractions of the Film Department.**

**Continuation of the Criticism of Pictures.**

**The Landscapes.**

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**THE CROWD.**

Several thousand very warm people were in the building during the evening. They were chiefly a city-crowd, and, as such, viewed the exhibition with that lofty indifference characteristic of the average city-bred person.

of those used to sights of wonder. Real was no inconsiderable triumph for the march of the affair to raise an audience last night; they succeeded. It was announced that it would be

**NO SPEECH-MAKING,**  
which may possibly serve to explain the  
thrusts of the public. Orations at  
Exposition on the evening night, as

Very few people can succeed in making voice reach the auditors, and very few and care much about orations, especially when thermometer ranges 90 deg. or more. Yet the days of born-blowing are on the wane, the era of peace and good-will toward the humanity at public places is beginning to dawn.

than that assembled in the Exposition of last evening could hardly be imagined. The ladies were radiant in their loveliness and gaud in their costumes, and the gentlemen abundant in all their grandeur of white vests and stove-pipes. There was a constant stream in and pouring out, for the atmosphere within the building was just open to admit the breeze.

THE FRONT OF THE STRUCTURE fairly glowed with light, viewed from the western approaches, and the space outside was filled with vehicles of every conceivable description. Frantic horses gave unhappy drivers and vigorous peepers a vast deal of trouble, but no a-

dent occurred, although there were some narrow escapes. The rush appeared to be almost, if not quite, equal to that of 1873, but there did not appear to be the same amount of interest in the articles for exhibition. The soft, voluptuous swell of the music lent animation to the promenade, and, to do the bandmen justice, they made things extra lively.

and showed a firelessman actually miraculously considering their surroundings. The "toots" were placed upon a "grand stand," situated last year, on the east side of the structure facing the main entrance. Flats of all nations garnished the platform, and partitioned streamers extended along the galleries, giving them quite a picturesque appearance. Several huge gaps were apparent in the floor, although the managers say that

TO THE GENERAL OBSERVER,  
at a cursory glance, the display of goods be-  
means equals that of last year, but this is  
counted for by the brief time given for prepara-  
tion, and the impossibility of making all the  
exhibitors move in their articles simultaneously.

THE DISPLAY OF MACHINERY  
in the northern end of the structure  
is simply magnificent. Nearly every  
thing that man, animal, or bird

carve, plow, harrow, scrape, and rake there represented. American ingenuity needs blush for the display of 1874 at the Inter-State Exposition. This part of the enterprise attracted far more attention last evening than it did the opening night of 1873. Less ladies inspected than ought to have done so, but it was borne in mind that the fairer portion of humanity look upon nearly all mechanism, outside of sewing-machine, with dread approaching horror.

Fortunately, the particular branch of mechanism in which they are interested was sufficiently well supplied to enlist their sympathies and command their respect. All of our home and most of the foreign agencies were represented in the display.

place. The extent is vast, indeed, and the multitude of the very large and fashionable attendance of last evening, would look very dreary. Despite the real creditable array of inventions, manufactures, and works of art, flowers, and all that the building without people to fill it up, would be a failure. Although reputed the best temporary structure in the world, it preserves all the leading characteristics of a great shanty. It looks more like

The visitors last night followed, as if by stinct, the course of their predecessors of a year. They poured in at the main entrance, thick columns, wheeled to their right and marched southward through the several aisles, made a dive into the magnificent conservatory at the southern end, gazed for a moment at the superb plants and not

flowers, praised their beauty, condescended half-way down the auditorium until they reached the Art Gallery, flew right into that temple of genius, killed two birds with one stone by admiring the pictures and having a vapor bath at the same time; then went into the main building north through the region of stores, circular saws, reaping-machines, steam-plows, fire-engines, patent mowers, and a whole array of agricultural implements; then up through the universal ramped, spiraled, and the

The ordinary pedestrian is fully satisfied with a simple tour of the Exposition building—especially the veteran in the line of big shows. The man who has seen the Jubilee, the Exposition of 1873, and the reception of Lord Dufferin, is not apt to grow enthusiastic over anything else of the same sort.

may happen in his life-time. Therefore half an hour at the Exposition is quite sufficient for the average male Chicagoan. The patience of the ladies is generally measured by the amount of their physical endurance.

The absence of last year's styles of broad brimmed hats and home-span clothes, proclaimed that the country was not stooping at the fountain of Inter-State knowledge.

trevening. The city girl leant on the arm of his male escort with that peculiar air of languidude which denotes an absence of interest in all mundane things. The city dame, "fair, fat and forty," looked tired, hot, and dusty, and was doubtless thinking of Joe Jefferson at McVicker's.

THE FATHER OF A FAMILY

looked at every article with the practiced eye of a man who is not to be astonished by any pro-

fection of human genus. He has seen two of the largest fires of history; has seen Chicago rebuilt, and is firmly convinced that, if people from the country come here at all, they ought to come to have a look at Chicago, and not to see Exposition. In the former case, they would be

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(See Fifth Page.)



























